CHAPTER – 4

CONTRIBUTION OF INSTALLATION ART BY HEMA UPADHYAY IN CONTEMPORARY ART WORLD
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Art is a language for communicating, to depict one’s feelings and thoughts in a creative manner. Art is an attractive way to express one’s personal feelings and deepest emotions through lines, forms, and colors. Art enlightens both the creator and the beholder. It is a way through which the heart expresses itself. It is not only the mode of expressing the emotions and thoughts but to represent the social political environment of its time, I was greatly inspired to study the works of a great artist of Baroda, Gujarat (India), Hema Upadhyay.

My main purpose to choose this subject was to understand the new era of contemporary art scenario. In this topic, I will be communicating about the various phases of art, installation art and also about its different kind of branches, which have come in this new time period. In this chapter, the topic of discussion will be the famous installation artist Hema Upadhyay and her work, artist’s work analytical study with art fundamentals.

My aim is also to study and gather information about installation art and also information about Installation artist Hema Upadhyay. I also aim to know the importance and the role of the individual in the field of art which will enable the new budding artists to understand the struggles of the artists that they had undergone during their journey towards fame.
Humans, when they civilized themselves, made and imposed certain rules and regulations on the society. Even art was not left untouched. Unruly forms and lines gained perfection and support of technique and the religion dominated as subject matter. Thus was born the classical art form of Ajanta and Ellora and this tradition was carried forward to Bagh and Sigiriya. Then with the patronage from royalty, bloomed the miniature painting with its entire splendor, which till now evokes awe in the heart of connoisseurs, throughout the world. With the passage of time as civilization advanced, art also kept pace with the changing time. Revival movement of Bengal generated freedom from traditions and modernist took full advantage of this scene. Contemporary art has taken it to its acme.

But one thing is common in all kinds of art, which is Beauty. This is the most important thing to see and enjoy in art. Art is a beautiful representation of the thoughts and inner feelings. And our thoughts come with different kinds of base like truth, spirituality, the impact of surroundings, feelings of love and beauty, etc.

When we see the artwork of any artist, then the first thing, which attracts us, is the formal beauty. Because as a human being, this is the tendency of our behavior that we look beauty in every single thing, which we see in our surroundings. This is common human nature.

There are mostly two important things in every artwork: - (See Chart – 4.1)

1. Formal Beauty
2. Inner Beauty
Formal Beauty, if we talk about this, ‘formal beauty’ is that which we observe through our eyes and feel with our senses. And in formal beauty, we also see the basic elements of art like – line, form, color, value, texture, and space. “The artist usually expresses herself/himself by the representation of the perceptible world”.¹ And for her/his presentation or making her/his work of art she/he surely needs the basic elements of art. Now we can say that basic elements are very important for formal beauty. In her/his artwork the artist uses basic elements for making creative work, with different lines, colors, shapes and textures; they make a pleasurable work of art. And pleasant works of art give pleasure to the artist and the viewers also.

The famous psychologist G. T. Fechner also agreed that if we make an analysis of artwork, formal beauty plays a very important role, and this is the essential base of analysis. Art is the perceptible form of inner feelings or thoughts. For its presentation, artists use particular rules and regulations and also elements for making their work pleasant and beautiful.

In India’s history books and yore culture, there are numerous classical rules and regulations and also elements described for making a work of art. Sixty-four types of arts are acknowledged in Indian culture. These elements are known as “Shadaang”,


Chart – 4.1

Beauty

- Formal Beauty
- Inner Beauty

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which are described in history or cultural books of India. With the classical rules and elements, we also need the contemporary elements of art for enjoying the artwork. And these elements are - Line, Form, Color, Value, Texture, and Space. (See Chart – 4.2)

The perfect making of a composition is using two or more art elements in every composition, without art elements artwork is never completed. All art elements - Line, Form, Color, Value, Texture, Space, come with rules and regulations and are very important in composition. By smartly using these art elements, the artists make their work fascinating and attractive and show their feeling and thoughts very beautifully.

The details of art elements are:-

1st Element of Art - Line

Line- To exhibit their feelings and thoughts, human’s developed a creative way that is ART. And the first element of art is ‘Line’; a line is the base of it. A line, thus, can be said a symbolic mark denoting movement and force in a form – metered by our eye. As in simple words, a line is the distance which moves between two dots or two borders, flow in a direction. And sometimes this distance is very micro or nano.
The meaning of this is – line, color, form, texture or decorative patterns make the whole creative work or painting. And in all of these elements, line secures the first position and it is an important element of art. The scholars and the artists extol any artwork or painting; they use the line as a main element or character. A line is the main and base element of drawing and painting.

Line drawing is the basic requirement of representation of thoughts and inner feelings. It’s a first step and base of any creative work. In another words, line is the soul of drawing and painting and any other creative work.

The line is also an important part of ‘Form’. The artist creates a form with the help of line on her/his canvas or empty area, which is used for representation of thoughts. Also, we can say that line has a very close relation with drawing. If we see the line, we find that the line is a two-dimensional thing. For making drawing and painting or any other creative work, the line always cooperates and supports all the rest of the other elements. If an artist wants to complete her/his artwork, she/he is capable of completing the entire work, either it is drawing-painting or it’s any other creative work with only from Line Drawing.

If we observe sincerely, we find that the line is the beginning source or element of art. Art started its journey only with the line. If we look out our history, we find...
that the pre-historic humans, who lived in caves, for expressing their thoughts and their feelings they discovered line drawing. With line drawing, they exhibited their inner feelings on walls of caves. From pre-historic to the contemporary art world and time, art comes in front of us with its several mediums and techniques and different forms and elements, but still, line is always a base for art, the line is always considered as the first and main element of art. In portrait and landscapes, the line shows its importance with its different shades like decorative, emotional, elaborated, etc. In the drawing of nature, birds, animals, elephants, horses etc, lines come with their rhythmic and forceful form.

For a creative or artwork, the first step is making a complete layout, and it can be completed only with the line drawing. For completing any artwork, there are a lot of different lines which move all over the art space. Example - if we take a leaf or a trunk of a tree, we find that there are many lines which come from different sides and move all over the body for completing and decorating the whole leaf or trunk of tree, at the end of it, we discover a complete leaf, or tree, or trunk, etc, in front of us. Like this, for completing an artwork or any creative work, line plays very important role. The drawing and the layout of a creative work are never complete without the line.

If we see Hema Upadhyay’s work we find that there are so many different kinds of lines playing an important role in her work; those lines decorate and complete her work.

Hema Upadhyay uses ‘Vertical Lines’ in her work very frequently; we can see these kinds of lines in many of her artworks; for example – ‘8/12’, (2009). In this installation work she creates vertical lines with the help of using and arranging lots of
materials. Because of arranging materials, the blank space looks like vertical lines, many big and small vertical lines we see in this work. Vertical lines depict – graces, peace, conviction, eternal power, and simple aspiration. All these qualities can be found in Hema’s installation work. (See Plate No. 4.1)

Plate No. – 4.1

Hema’s work ‘Extra Ordinary’ (2012) uses ‘Horizontal Lines’ which depict – calm, certainty, stability, relaxation, peace. This work of Hema Upadhyay fulfils all these qualities. (See Plate No. 4.2)

Plate No. – 4.2
‘Modernization’ (2011) is one of Hema’s installation work. In this work, we find Diagonal Lines. These lines are used very beautifully in her work. These lines create a dramatic atmosphere in the surrounding area. Diagonal lines represent – drama, excitement, fidgety feelings. And in this work, we can find all these qualities of the diagonal line. (See Plate No. 4.3)

Plate No. – 4.3

‘Mum – My’ (2007) and Derelict; untitled (2007) Mattress Factory (Pittsburgh, USA) are some of Hema’s Installation works, in which we find ‘Angular and Radial lines’. Both these lines represent: Radial line – lust, aspiration, glory, divinity, and complacency and Angular line represents - distraction and insecure feelings. These works represented her inner feelings and also fulfill all these qualities through those lines. (See Plate No. 4.4)

Plate No. – 4.4
‘Killing Site’ (2008) and ‘Sweet – Sweat Memories’ (2001) are some of Hema’s works, in which she has used ‘Rhythmic’ and ‘Spiral Lines’ very beautifully. Because of her use of these lines we understand her feelings through her work. The lines show their meaning very beautifully like spiral lines show – power, speed, stimulation, etc. These kinds of lines make feelings of enjoyment in life and the other line, Rhythmic Line shows –pleasant, beauty, splendour, etc. This kind of line shows the flow of feelings and depicts happiness in surroundings. (See Plate No. 4.5)

![Rhythmic and Spiral Line](image)

**Plate No. – 4.5**

‘Universe Revolves On’ (2008), is one of her work, in which Hema Upadhyay used curved lines very brilliantly; her feelings and thoughts are exhibited very beautifully by these lines. In this work, we find the curved line spread all over the work, and express its meanings like – beauty, complexity, and mystery. These lines make her work stunning and mysterious and show her thoughts and inner feelings. (See Plate No. 4.6)
2nd Element of Art – Form

Form – This is the second element of art. And it’s also very important to create an artwork.

Definition – Outer look of a clearly defined area, as illustrious from color or material; configuration: a square or rectangle form. To say in easy words – the contour and structure of an object, thing or person like – bird, flower, human etc.

The form is the area that has a particular and defined shape and color: for example - triangular. In our simple words and in general language we identify form as object’s shape. It’s totally based on outer shape, and from line and color we create and represent the internal specification of any object. In Hindi, we called it “Roop”.

First of all, form creates in mind only, and after that, it takes a structure or it takes a visual shape on empty surface or canvas with help of line, color, and other elements of art. Form is also an important part or element of art like line and color.
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In any creative work or artwork, there is an important role of this element. In artwork, form composition is plays a major role.\(^\text{13}\)

If we observe Hema Upadhyay’s work, we find that she has used many kinds of forms in her different works, like human figures, birds, nature etc. (See Chart – 4.3)

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Different Forms

Human Body Parts  Human Figure  Self Images  Nature  Birds  Insects  Geometric Shapes
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Chart – 4.3

‘Acrobats and Their Scenes’ (2008) one of Hema’s work, in this work we find that she has used forms of human body parts to represent her thoughts and to create an artwork in her unique style. In one of her other works, ‘Bleeding Hearts’ (2005), she has used the form of human body parts and self-images, etc. (See Plate No. 4.7)

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Plate No. – 4.7
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In some of Hema’s works like ‘Glass House’, ‘killing site’ etc, we usually find nature’s forms like flowers, branches etc. These kinds of forms make her work very stunning and eye catching. With the use of different colors, she makes her work very beautiful. In killing site (2008), she uses the form of flowers and branches as background with pleasant colors, which make her works very striking. (See Plate No. 4.8)

Some of Hema’s works ‘8/12’ (2009), and ‘Dream a Wish, Wish a Dream’ (2006), and ‘Seriously Playful’ (2005) etc, are the perfect examples of geometric shapes and forms. (See Plate No- 4.9). In some of her works she has used geometric forms very beautifully. The forms of geometric shapes make her work fascinating and mesmerizing. In these works, she makes houses, temples, colonies, etc. By using the geometric forms like square, rectangle, triangle, etc, she has created a perfect artistic work.

Plate No. – 4.8
In Hema’s work, we find a variety of different forms. She created a diverse range of forms in her numerous works, which make her work creative and also exhibit her thoughts and feelings very captivating.

**Human Figures**

Hema Upadhyay used human figure and also parts of human body in several of her works. Not only in painting but also in installation artwork, she has used this form. These forms play very important role in her works. (See Plate No-4.10)
Self-Images

Hema Upadhyay uses self-images very frequently. In her different works, she uses her images not only colorful but also in solid black in different postures, somewhere she also uses her images as a background and somewhere in front and center of the artwork. (See Plate No-4.11)

Nature (Flowers, Branch)

Hema Upadhyay uses nature images in her work. Mostly, she uses the forms which are subject to transformation of nature in her work like flowers branches and other nature related things. The colorful forms of nature make her work very lively. (See Plate No-4.12)
**Birds**

Hema creates the form of birds not only in her installations but also in her paintings. In one of her site-specific installations, she created the sign of BYE, by engaged the real birds. From this work of her, we understand her thoughts and feelings. And yet in another installation work, she creates forms of birds to represent her feeling, which was ‘Twin Souls’ (2010). Many of her other works are done by using and creating the birds. (See Plate No-4.13)

![Plate No. – 4.13](image)

**Insects**

Hema Upadhyay creates the form of insects, which are cockroaches, in one of her work. She made 2000 or more cockroaches for her work with m-seal. (See Plate No-4.14)

![Plate No. – 4.14](image)
3rd Element of Art - Color

Color - Color is the most important element of art among all the other elements. For color, there are lots of descriptions in our classical book ‘Rigveda’. ‘Varn’ the Hindi word is used for color from Rigveda time. Color is also an important part of human life. Color is perhaps the most influential tool for the artist’s creation. Its affects our emotions beyond thoughts and can express any mood, from pleasure to anguish. It can be delicate or dramatic, capture concentration or stimulate desire. Used more bravely and freely today than ever before, color bathes our visualization with an unlimited variety of sensations, from clear, luminous hues to subtle mysterious mixtures. Color is a territory of all the artists, from painters and potters to viewers.

In human life, color plays a very important role. Everything has its own particular color, and we recognize things from their base color. Because of sun rays and its laws and high quantity, we see the same things in different shades and colors.

In fine art, color is a motor vehicle for expressing emotion and concept as well as information and it is a very influential element of art. Its potentialities are unlimited. Experts and scientists have tried for centuries to know what creates colors in the world, and how we see them; yet we still have no fixed answer to these questions. The expert color theorists have tried to concentrate the infinite figure of visible color variation into a few basic colors and to form theories about their connection. But there aren’t any single color theories, which have been normally accepted as a satisfactory explanation of all color phenomena.

For gathering more information about color, we have to build up a language. To talk about colors, we must explore briefly into the physical properties of what we
see as colors. While this language is useful, it is not always specific, for much of it is based on theoretical or technical surveillance that does not necessarily hold accurate in artistic practice. While discussing colors, it must be made quite clear to which of this one is referring. Physicists clarify color as a function of light. A contemporary theory is that energy from the sun consists of a sequence of separate energy packets, or quantum, traveling as nonstop electromagnetic waves. They stimulate color sensations in our visual sensitivity when they strike objects. In the 17th century, Newton conducted a sequence of experiments representing, among other things, that sunlight contains all the rainbow colors. Newton recognized seven basic colors which are – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. Each hue is now thought to communicate to a certain part of the range of wavelengths of radiant energy that is notable by the human eye, called the visible spectrum.18 (See Chart – 4.4)

So this is the way that how we can see the colors; in simple words, color is not a solid thing or material. It’s a visual communication between sunlight and eyes,
which comes to our retina after crossing particular things. Without sunlight we never recognize any color in surroundings.\textsuperscript{19}

Colors have their own lustre. Without color, we can’t recognize anything or anyone in the world. Color has the power of giving life to artwork. With the help of this power of color, artists create and complete their artwork.\textsuperscript{20} From color composition, we easily know about the artist’s color sense and her/his thoughts, and also about her/his character or psychology. From the sense of colors, we know about someone’s good or bad interests or thoughts and habits also.\textsuperscript{21} There are lots of ups and downs in someone’s life and an artist describe her/his experiences, about life’s ups and down in her/his artwork. With the help of color, an artist can easily explain her/his feelings. The colors tell the whole story about the artist. Right from our birth, colors affect every one of us all through our lives.

Color is a very important thing in our life. Color attracts everyone, not only the artist but also the viewers as well. Every color has its particular effect and meaning. Some like light colors and some like dark, these are based on artist’s feeling and psychology.

The color scheme of Hema’s artwork is very unique. She does her work with her creative thoughts and a unique sense of colors. She opted the colors according to her thoughts and makes creative work by compiling all of these. She has used bright colors as well as light shades; she chooses colors according to her work and mood. She merges the colors with her feelings and makes a mysterious lustre, because of that the viewer feels bound to think about her work. When we see her work, we find that she plays with colors very boldly and creates a mysterious lustre on canvas or blank
space. In Hema Upadhyay’s work, there are so many miscellaneous colors. And for highlighting the main objects of figures she uses the shades of different colors; because of her unique technique of applying colors, we see additional value of freshness in her work.

‘Seriously Playful’ (2004) and the ‘Bleeding Hearts’ (2005) are some of Hema’s stunning artworks. In these works she uses primary colors, in these works red, yellow, blue colors are highlighted. She has created figures and objects by using the primary colors, and all the colors create their own magical lustre, and the bright colors catch the eyes of the viewer. And of course, the colors tell the feelings and thoughts of the artist. (See Plate No. 4.15)

Plate No. – 4.15

An artist is mostly influenced by her/his surroundings. If we see the work of Hema Upadhyay, we can easily understand about all these things. It is the subject of the artwork. Hema Upadhyay’s mood is very much inspired by surroundings and atmosphere. We usually see the dream city ‘Mumbai’ and Mumbai’s colors in her work. Her color scheme is mysterious and the color sense of her work is appreciable. Anti colors also merge very smartly in her work. I don’t think that any color has remained untouched from her color palette. She uses both bright and light colors very
smartly. We see this entire quality in ‘The Princesses Rusted Belt 2011-12’ which is one of Hema’s striking works. In this work, she uses miscellaneous colors. (See Plate No. 4.16)

![Plate No. – 4.16](image)

In her work ‘Glass House’ (2007), Hema Upadhyay uses miscellaneous color scheme and it looks very stunning. In this painting, she uses black transparent color in some places with bright yellow background and also with red, blue, and green. And its lustre looks like mysteries. She uses diverse range of colors, very smartly in her work. (See Plate No. 4.17)

In Hema Upadhyay’s work we see the assorted color scheme which represents the feeling of freshness and also represents her mysterious thoughts. Her optimistic thoughts are also represented in her work and color sense. Her selection of color is very unique; everything is in her control. Every color is pre-planned in her work; it struck my mind when I saw her work. The way of applying the colors on canvas or
blank space without destroying the freshness of the color; is the unique technique of Hema Upadhyay.

Some of Hema’s works use monochrome color or two or three colors for completing the work. She chooses colors according to her work or thoughts. She applies the color which is required according to the demand of her work and place. She never applies or uses colors in abundance in her work.

‘Modernization’ (2011), is one of Hema’s beautiful work. In this work she uses miscellaneous colors as flat blocks. She makes lots of blocks with different materials and colors. – (See Plate No. 4.18)

‘Glass House’ (2007), is one of Hema Upadhyay’s stunning work. In this work, she uses monochromatic and light color shades for making and highlighting the main figure or objects. She uses light tone shades in her work very smartly. The color shades she uses is given below in the chart. (See Plate No. 4.19)

Hema Upadhyay uses bright colors as well light shades in her work; she compiles both color schemes in her work. In Hema’s work, we see miscellaneous colors and shades. In her work we usually find red, yellow, blue, green, orange and black also. With these colors, we find the miscellaneous shades of all these colors.
From the color sense, we can easily understand about Hema Upadhyay’s personality and also about her nature. She uses bright colors with their freshness; this is her unique technique which makes her work very stunning.

4th Element of Art - Value

Value - Value denotes darkness and lightness of a color. In their creative work of art, artists use tone to represent the variety of levels of light that reflect on the things. The tone is one step on a stage from light and dark. The tone is a different word for Value. In an achromatic tone scale, the tone extreme is white and black, with the variety of gray tones in amid. Tone or Value can also be connected with color: blue can still be blue, but it can be darker or lighter, or of a different tones of the color. An artist can carefully operate gradation in tones to create the manifestation of natural light on objects. This is called modeling or shading. A range of tones or values can represent emotions too. (Chart – 4.5)

After Mixing white in hue or color, we get the value or tone, it is called ‘Tint’, and after mixing the black in hue, the getting value is called ‘Shade’. 
Hema Upadhyay mostly uses the bright colors in her work, like red, orange, yellow, blue, green, etc. But she also uses the tone or value of these colors as well in her work. Hema Upadhyay has been perfect in using any kind of color palette.

In one of Hema Upadhyay’s work ‘Glass House- 2007’, she uses tint and shades for completing her work with elegance. In an achromatic tone, she creates a mysterious atmosphere; she uses black and white and its value or shades (tint or shades) in this work, which looks stunning in black, white and gray shades. She uses brown color’s value also for making skin color. (See Plate No. 4.20)

‘Killing Site’ (2008), is one of Hema’s work, in this work she uses tint and shades in her unique technique. In this work, she takes values of blue, green, and red, yellow. She creates objects in a sequence with the different value of different hues. From using this value of tint and shades in her work, she represents her thoughts in a different way which is her unique style. She uses white and black very boldly for highlighting the figure and objects. All shades and values support each other. (See Plate No. 4.21)
‘Loco-Foco-Motto’ (2007), is one of Hema Upadhyay’s spectacular work. She uses the value of yellow in her installation work. She creates an amazing atmosphere around her work with yellow tint and shades. The shades which she has used can be seen below in block chart. (See Plate No. 4.22)

![Plate No. – 4.22](image)

‘Only Memory Has Preservatives’ (2011): In this work Hema Upadhyay’s she uses monochromatic value in her installation. In this work she represents her thoughts from the transformation of nature’s images on CD’s; there are lots of images of trees or leaves in black, white and gray shades. (See Plate No. 4.23)

5th Element of Art – Texture

Texture - Texture is the character of the surface. And we find the texture in different substance, which have different color, form, which we can feel the sense of touch. We find texture not only in nature but also in human-made things and objects or different kinds of substance.25
There is no similarity between the textures we find in different substances and objects in nature. Each and every single thing and object has its own personal and particular texture. When we see something, the surface of the thing also attracts us. This is perceived not only with eyes but also by the touch sense. The thing’s roughness, smoothness, softness is the physical quality of texture and the artist uses this quality in her/his work with natural and original quality of surface or reconstructs form or surface as the artwork requires or as per demand. In her work, Hema Upadhyay uses the texture in some different and unique style. Creating the different layer of textural surface makes it cheerful to her. She has enjoyed the experiments and her creative work. For preparing the texture Hema Upadhyay uses lots of materials like – photos, photo cut-outs, aluminum sheets, car scrap, plastic sheets, found objects, m-seal, resin and hardware material etc. According to the demand of the work, Hema Upadhyay creates different textures from different materials. She uses self-images for making the textures in some of her work; it makes her work very unique and different. She has used self Images and also other different materials for making the textural surface for her work, like paper strips, match sticks, m-seal, sand, car scrap, etc.

‘Glass House’ (2007) one of Hema Upadhyay’s beautiful work, in this beautiful work she creates textures from her solid black self-images which are in different poses. And after making this texture she works upon this, it looks stunning. (See Plate No-4.24)
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Plate No. – 4.24

‘Underneath’ (2004), is one of the beautiful works of Hema Upadhyay. In this work, she transforms the nature’s motif as the texture of her work in her unique style, which looks dazzling. Upon this texture, she creates or pastes her images and also uses dry pastel, acrylic for completing her work. (See Plate No-4.25)

Plate No. – 4.25

‘Universe Revolves On’ (2008), is one of Hema’s striking work. In this work series, she makes different works with different thoughts and materials. She makes many kinds of textures in this series. In one of her works she uses Modified Clay Slip
for making texture on hand made paper and after making the texture she uses self-images on it. This is her unique style. (See Plate No. 4.26)

Plate No. – 4.26

Hema Upadhyay’s ‘Loco-Foco-Motto’ (2007), is one of the superb works which I like personally. In this work she makes a chandelier and for this work, she makes the textural surface from matchsticks. The matchsticks make beautiful textural surface and perfectly exhibit the thoughts of the artist. (See Plate No-4.27)

Plate No. – 4.27
All the above works are just some examples of her art empire; Hema Upadhyay makes a diverse range of textures in her different works. Here we can’t describe all the works. Her technique and style are unique which make her special in a general community of artists.

6th Element of Art – Space

Space – An element of art by which positive and negative areas are defined or a sense of depth is achieved in a work of art. In all the elements of art, space is that element which is the main base of the form. Without space, we can never think about a striking composition. Its importance is described in India’s legendary scripture. In Vishnudharmotar Puran it’s called “स्थान”, in Samrangan Sutrādhar it’s called “भूमि बंधन”, and in Abhilashitarh Chintamani, it’s called “स्थान निरूपण”. In a broad sense space is that element which is bound and restrains all other elements in one composition and makes the artwork beautiful and striking.

Hema Upadhyay is aware of all the art elements in her work. She considers all the elements like form, color and other elements and space also. In her installations, she has divided her composition space very smartly with arrangements of objects and materials in her unique style.

‘Mum-My’ (2007), is one of Hema Upadhyay’s stunning work. In this installation work, she has divided the space very smartly. She has arranged her work in the center of received blank art space with the similar tone of lights and also arranged the paintings behind the installation. It looks like the painting is a part of her installation. In this work, we can easily notice and define the negative and positive
area. In this work, we see that the divided area is equally distributed each to right and left part. The artwork and the whole area are in the similar value of hue and the entire work creates an effective lustre and perfectly represents her feelings and thoughts. (See Plate No-4.28)

Plate No. – 4.28

In the specific installation, the attention of mind and dividing the space is very important, because the blank space is also very important as well as the exhibited area. The negative area as well is as important as positive area; we can never neglect anyone of them. Not only the work but the blank space also create and fulfil the work’s requirement and space demand.

‘Where the Bees Suck There Suck I’ (2009), is one of Hema Upadhyay’s mesmerizing works. It is a perfect example of space division in the smart sense. In this work, the installation work is important but the blank space also supports to create an effective lustre. For once we may think that if there is no blank space in this work then, will this work look effective? I don’t think so. So space is very important in art. (See Plate No-4.29)
Inner Beauty

Inner Beauty is the emotion and the sense of heart. An artist not only sees the outer beauty which is based on physical but also sees the inner beauty. Artists are extra sensitive when compared to other people. The small incidents and accidents always affect artist’s sensitive mind, and then the artist make efforts to work on that. Artists feel more than any other human. Ordinary people forget easily those accidents which had occurred in their surroundings, but artists never forget them. Even they are very much sensitive about them and also take them as their subject of art and they represent those incidents and accidents in front of society. Through their art and sensitivity, the incidents and accidents become special and leave an immeasurable effect on us.
The artist exerts a pressure on society to see her/his work of art and also feels those writhing movements which are the base of her/his artwork. The artist creates a divine lustre from their work and no one in the society remains untouched by it. Everyone feels and senses the artist’s feelings and thoughts from her/his artwork. The artist’s sensitive work comes only from surroundings which generally people can’t notice.29

The art work’s excellence is not dependent only on the subject but also depends on the golden and emotional heart of an artist which affects others. If an artist gets some stuff and material which is a waste in the sense of common people, she/he can create an effective artwork within some time from that material. Their thoughts take a visual form with the value of different hues, and the lines show the aliveness of an artist’s efforts. The dump material takes a live and visual form of the artist’s thoughts. And it makes humanitarian feelings between artwork and viewers.30

The artist takes thoughts and sensation from her/his surroundings. This makes her/his cognition cautious. And from cognition, feelings and thoughts are grown and developed for art. It all depends on the inner beauty of artists. That is how they represent their thoughts in an effective way. And when the feelings and thoughts come in their emotional heart which is full of sentiments, love, kindness, and then they create artwork with the beauty of their internal sense which affects the whole society. Its consequences are same for all; it’s not for any individual. This presentation is totally artistic.31
Chapter 4: Contribution of Installation Art by Hema Upadhyay in Contemporary Art World

Contribution of Hema Upadhyay to Art World

In our daily life, numerous incidents and accidents occur but we do not notice all of them and even notice on some of them, after some time they fade away from our memories and we hardly remember them. All those incidents and accidents are compiled in art and become special. The artist compiles all the accidents in a unique order so the incidents and accidents become specific and prominent and represents the feelings of artists and also agitate the viewers. When someone sees Hema Upadhyay’s work, they also sense the same feelings with which Hema has compiled her work. She makes very special artwork from ordinary subjects. Her subjects come from memories.
and surroundings. In one of Hema Upadhyay’s work ‘BYE’ (2002-03) a site-specific Installation, she takes a topic which is very ordinary there; no one gives much importance to it. This subject is migration. In her words – “During my stay in Kishangarh, I realized that though there are businesses in Kishangarh, a majority of the population still goes to other cities to earn a living. They migrate. They may not have a permanent home in their place of work but for all practical purposes they depend on the other city, which is near about their town (mostly Ajmer)”.

(See Plate No. 4.30)

![Plate No. – 4.30](image)

Artists are very sensitive and they represent their sensations in their artwork. And the sensations and beauty are the aspects of artwork. For sensing the feelings and beauty of artwork we have to be sensitive like an artist. Without sensitivity, we can never feel the beauty of artwork. Hema Upadhyay was also very sensitive and she compiled her sensitivity and softness in her work. And this work is full of beauty of her sense. She compiled her thoughts in her work with unique style, different colors, and the different value of hue. Hema Upadhyay’s work ‘Bleeding Hearts’ (2005) is the perfect example of this. In this work, she has compiled sensitivity in work with her feelings and thoughts. In ‘Bleeding Hearts’ she deals with the confrontations of personal phobias, shortcomings and other realities like that of identities and space,
both public and private which are hierarchically structured amongst class, caste, religion, and gender. In this work, she has compiled the softness of feelings with flowers and hardness of the subject with sensitivity; they both have come together in this work. (See Plate No-4.31)

Plate No. – 4.31

For making any artwork, thoughts and sensitivity are the most important things. Without it, the artwork is never complete. Hema Upadhyay is one of those artists, who make special things from ordinary belongings; she uses ordinary materials and finds objects in a unique style with a sensitive way. She describes social and important issues in a very responsive way which makes her work very unique. ‘The Nymph and the Adult’ (2001) is one of Hema Upadhyay’s striking work made from m-seal, acrylic, gouache, wire, etc, which are very ordinary materials. And in this work, she raises a social issue of the contemporary political climate which is based on the relationship between India and Pakistan. From m-seal, she made 2000 or more cockroaches and placed on the walls and room of the exhibiting area. (See Plate No-4.32)
Hema Upadhyay has compiled her work not only with the beauty of objects but also she compiled it with the inner beauty and sensitive thoughts. In her work, we find a variety of materials, found objects and other ordinary things. She has treated a variety of subjects in her unique style which is very special. And it comes from a long practice of practical work. It takes courage to compile different materials in a unique work with different techniques and thoughts. It is not easy for ordinary people. For this kind of great work, the artist also should be special. And Hema Upadhyay is one of that special artist, who has made us proud. All her works are different, special and beautiful too, with different materials and subjects.

In the end of this chapter, I have reached on this conclusion, that I have analyzed her work on the basis of elements of art. In her work, she has used the elements of art very perfectly. Her lines and forms are very sensitive, and the balance of colors and value of hue makes her work lively. Her work comes in front of us with bright lustre every time. With the art elements, her works represent her thoughts and sensitivity which make us astonished in the deepest core of our heart.
References


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